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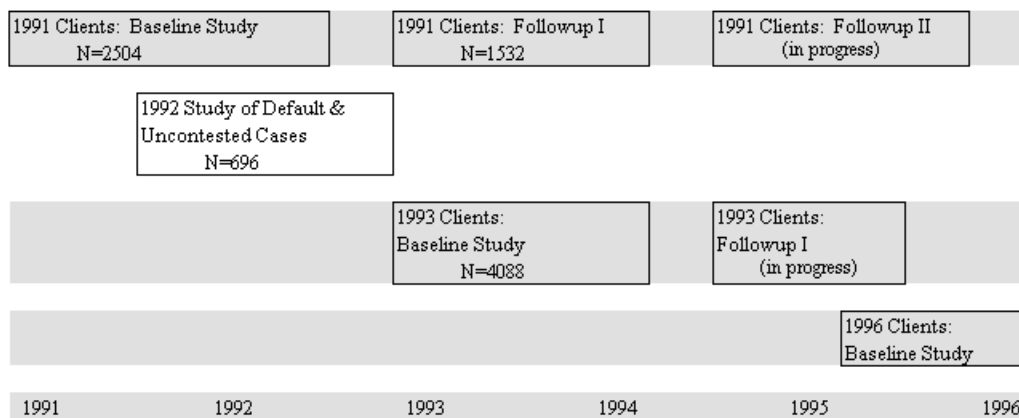
# Description of Uniform Statistical Reporting System

## Statewide Office of Family Court Services

### Administrative Office of the Courts

#### Judicial Council of California

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**The Uniform Statistical Reporting System's** mission is to provide rigorous statistics on issues facing policy makers, judges, attorneys, court personnel, researchers, special interest groups, and parents who use the family courts. The Uniform Statistical Reporting System (USRS) follows a parsimonious design, consisting of a network of discrete but interlocking studies that can be used alone or combined in different ways to address specific policy questions. The cornerstone of the USRS is the **Family Court Services Snapshot Series** described below.

- **The 1991 Client Baseline Study** sampled 1,699 family court sessions across the state, collecting extensive information from 2,504 mothers and fathers who received mediation services. The sampled sessions represented 83 percent of all family court services sessions conducted during the study period.
- **The 1992 Default and Uncontested Dissolution Matched Sample Study** gathered information about 696 fathers and mothers who resolved custody and visitation matters without the use of court-based dispute resolution services. Comparison with the 1991 Client Baseline Study participants illustrates differences in the prevailing experiences of

those who use different methods to determine child custody.

- **The 1991 Client Followup I** interviewed 1,532 parents up to two years after their participation in the 1991 Client Baseline Study. Parents reported on family outcomes over time, such as the viability of custody arrangements, and reflected on their experiences with the legal system for resolving custody matters.
- **The 1991 Client Followup II** will interview parents four years after their participation in family court child custody mediation and the 1991 Client Baseline Study. The data collection will take place in fall 1995.
- **The 1993 Client Baseline Study** sampled 2,735 family court sessions across the state (87 percent of all sessions conducted during the study period), collecting extensive information from 4,088 mothers and fathers who received mediation services. Comparison with the 1991 Client Baseline Study will identify possible trends in case characteristics and case management in an era of rapid change in court environments.
- **The 1993 Client Followup I** will collect data from mothers and fathers who participated in the 1993 Client Baseline Study. The study will be conducted in fall 1995, two years after the parents were seen in family court.

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**Judicial Council Committees and Initiatives** Family & Juvenile Committee  
Commission on the Future of the California Courts - Consultation and Report  
Trial Court Budget Commission

**Superior Courts**

County level statistics and charts  
Data collection consultation  
*Court News* articles  
All courts automatically receive all reports, fact sheets, and state-level statistics.  
Training workshops on collecting their own statistics

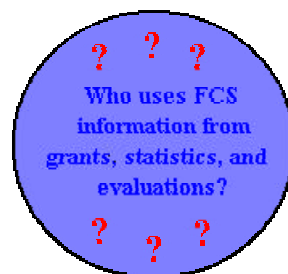
**Family Service Providers** YWCAs  
Non-profit Organizations

**Users of Court Services (parents & families)**  
Statewide Information Bulletins

**Other State Courts**

Research  
Methodology &  
Sample questionnaires  
Consultation

**State Legislature** Fact sheets  
Staff briefings  
Telephone consultation  
Testimony



**Other AOC Units**

Legal and Council  
Services  
Governmental Affairs

**Professional Media**  
*Recorder Family Court Services Newsletter*

**Training of Court Personnel** Data collection seminars  
Statewide Training Institute  
Bar Associations

**Professional Community and Public at Large**  
Over 1000 requests have been filed in the last 5 years for reports, fact sheets, and data collection materials.

***Other Court Researchers*** *Family and Conciliation Courts Review* National Center for State Courts Foundations and non-profits

***National/Local Media*** *Wall Street Journal* - Statewide statistics countering misconceptions about child custody and mediation in CA. Press Releases County-level statistics

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